



# CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE UPDATE

## **UPDATE ON SEWER MAIN REPAIR ACTIVITIES IN FORT LAUDERDALE**

**December 29, 7:00 p.m.**

Following is an update on sewer main repair activities and restoration work on NE 5 Street in Victoria Park, SE 10 Street along the north side of Virginia Young Park in Rio Vista, and the Himmarshee Canal in Beverly Heights. In addition, below are updates on ongoing cleanup and remediation efforts in the Hector Park area along Ponce de Leon Drive in Rio Vista.

### **Operations in Victoria Park**

- NE 5 Street between NE 16 Avenue and NE 17 Way remains open to local traffic only while restoration work continues.
- Crews from Cliff Berry, Inc. (CBI) continued conducting cleaning and pressure washing activities in the affected area on NE 5th Street.
- A contractor is scheduled to be on site tomorrow (Monday, December 30) to perform asphalt work and complete road repairs on NE 5 Street.

### **Operations in Virginia Young Park**

- Work continued on backfilling the pit around the new section of 54-inch pipe that was installed on SE 10 Street along the north side of Virginia Young Park, as well as site restoration activities.
- Crews from Cliff Berry, Inc. (CBI) conducted remediation activities including cleaning and pressure washing streets, sidewalks, and driveways in the affected area.
- Stormwater staff conducted cleaning and maintenance activities on catch basins, tidal valves, and storm drains in the affected area.
- Virginia Young Park remains closed while repair activities are taking place.
- Neighbors are reminded that the area in and around Virginia Young Park is an active construction zone and access is restricted to appropriate operational and management personnel.

### **Operations in the Himmarshee Canal**

- The valve device around the submerged 48-inch pipe in the Himmarshee Canal continues to operate properly.
- Divers plan to monitor the valve for approximately 24 hours and, if no further adjustments are needed, will apply special concrete around the apparatus to permanently secure it in place.
- Three aerators will continue to operate in the Himmarshee Canal to help improve water quality.
- The Himmarshee Canal from S. Federal Highway to the New River remains under a precautionary advisory for recreational water-related activities. Swimming, fishing, jet-skiing, paddle-boarding, kayaking, canoeing, or engaging in any water-related activities within the precautionary advisory area should be avoided.
- To view a map of the precautionary advisory area, please visit <http://bit.ly/35l0DuC>.

## **Cleanup and Remediation of Ponce de Leon Drive/Hector Park Area**

- Crews from Cliff Berry, Inc. (CBI) conducted cleanup, pressure washing, and deodorizing activities where needed on Ponce de Leon Drive, SE 11 Street, and in areas around Hector Park.
- Stormwater staff checked catch basins, tidal valves, and drainage operations in the affected area.
- Hector Park remains closed to the public while restoration and remediation work continues.

## **Environmental Activities**

- Water sampling continues to be conducted daily at 16 points in the Tarpon River and New River. Water samples taken on December 28, showed 14 of the 16 samples with passing results. The two sampling points that are not meeting required levels are located at 1111 Ponce de Leon Drive and on the east side of the Andrews Ave Bridge.
- Water sampling is also being conducted at 3 points in the Himmarshee Canal. Water samples taken on December 28 showed none of the three samples with passing results.
- 14 aerators will continue to operate to help improve water quality in the Tarpon River, New River, and Himmarshee Canal. Several of the aerators will be repositioned in closer proximity to the sampling locations that are not producing passing results.
- Crews from Cliff Berry, Inc. (CBI) conducted air lancing activities today in the Tarpon River to help break down the organic material that was discharged into the waterway.
- Boats will continue to patrol the canal system in and around Rio Vista and in the Himmarshee Canal conducting skimming and debris removal on the waterways.

## **Precautionary Advisory for Water-Related Recreational Activities**

- A precautionary advisory for recreational activities in local waterways remains in effect.
- The boundaries are Broward Boulevard to the north, Poinciana Drive to the east, SE 15 Street to the south, and SW 18 Avenue to the west. Water-related activities including swimming, fishing, jet-skiing, paddle-boarding, kayaking, and canoeing should be avoided within these boundaries.
- To view a map of the precautionary advisory for water-related recreational activities, please visit <http://bit.ly/35l0DuC>.

## **Road Closures in Rio Vista**

- Roads in the immediate vicinity of Virginia Young Park remain closed including portions of SE 10 Street and South Rio Vista Boulevard east of SE 9 Avenue, as well as SE 9 Avenue from south of the intersection at SE 8 Street to Ponce de Leon Drive.
- There is no access east of SE 9 Avenue at the intersections of SE 9 Street, SE 10 Street, South Rio Vista Boulevard, and the north side of Ponce de Leon Drive.
- To view a map of the road closures, please visit <http://bit.ly/34W91Q6>.

## **Safety Tips**

- Neighbors in the affected areas are reminded to avoid contact with any standing water.
- If contact is made, please remember to follow proper hygiene procedures. Wash your hands with soap and warm water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer immediately after contact with wastewater, especially before preparing or eating food.
- Be sure to keep all children and pets away from any area affected by the wastewater spill that has not been remediated.

-Keep a container or spray bottle outside residential entryways with a 90/10 solution (90% water to 10% household bleach) to clean shoes and other items that may have come into contact with wastewater.

-To view a safety tips flyer, please visit <http://bit.ly/2sUvr73>.

### **For More Information**

Neighbors are encouraged to stay up to date by visiting the City's website at [www.fortlauderdale.gov](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov) or following the City on social media at:

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/CityofFortLauderdale/>

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/FTLCityNews>

Nextdoor - <https://www.nextdoor.com>

Neighbors may also call the City's 24-hour Neighbor Call Center at 954-828-8000.

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